Employment in MICA Mines

723. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mica Mines in operation, State-wise; and

(b) the number of male, female and child workers employed/deployed in Mica Mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANARAO):

(a) and (b) As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) a subordinate office under control of Ministry of Mines, the state-wise reporting mica mines in the country were as follows:-

1.	Andhra Pradesh	19
2.	Rajasthan	8
3.	Jharkhand	5
4.	Bihar	1

The average daily employment in reporting mica mines during 2003-04 (Provisional) was as follows:-

State	Male	Female	Total
Andhra Pradesh	186	60	246
Bihar	12	0	12
Jharkhand	92	3	95
Rajasthan	51	17	68
TOTAL :	341	80	421

Employment Schemes for Ex-Employees of BGML

724. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) when the Bharat Gold Mines at KGF was closed down;

(b) how many employees were working at the time of closure;

(c) the extent of land possessed by it;

(d) whether there is any proposal to sell these lands;

(e) whether VRS benefits have been given to all the employees;

(f) whether there is any proposal to draw up schemes to provide alternative employment to the ex-employees; and

(g) whether Government are aware that the Karnataka Government is willing to extend all help if special employment schemes are being implemented by Government for these ex-employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) was closed with effect from 1st March, 2001 under Section 25(0) of the Industrial Disputes, Act, 1947.

(b) At the time of closure, there were 3580 employees on the rolls of BGML.

(c) and (d) BGML possesses 12095 acres of land at Kolar Gold Fields (KGF). The issue of winding up of the company and liquidation of its assets including land is pending before Hon'ble Company Court, and, as such, there is no proposal to sell these lands by the Government till the decision of the High Court.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Government has no scheme for providing any alternative employment to the ex-employees of BGML.

(g) No, Sir.

Survey of Mineral Deposits in J&K

725. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out any seismic surveys to ascertain mineral deposits in J&K;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have drawn any plans to exploit and explore mineral resources in the State during the next three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?